



BATTLE MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

MOJAVE-SOUTHERN RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

JULY 21, 2011

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC Crescent Dunes. Construction of this Concentrated Solar Power Tower on 2,200 acres, 10 miles north of Tonopah, will produce 110 megawatt of power. The public comment period ended on December 24, 2009 for the Plan of Development. The public comment period ended on October 18, 2010 for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. This fast track project Record of Decision was signed on December 21, 2010.

Request of Right of Way (ROW): Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC Crescent Dunes Associated Right of Way for Transmission. Tonopah Solar Energy, requested a Right of Way (ROW) for a 193.94-acre transmission line. The ROW for the transmission line was processed with the ROW for the Solar Tower plant.

Utilization Plan for Construction Received for Ormat: McGinness Hills. This fast track project, 27 miles north of Austin, proposes development for geothermal possibilities and construction of two 40-megawatt plant. The Utilization Plan for construction and associated ROW applications have been received. The EA has been sent to the public for review and the comment period ends at the end of the month of June. The power plant construction would occur in 2012.

Exploration Completed: Ormat: Grass Valley. Exploration for geothermal possibilities in Cortez has been completed. Ormat plugged the well associated with this project and reclamation is in progress.

Exploration Approved and Underway for Sierra Geothermal Power Inc.: Silver Peak. Exploration for geothermal possibilities has been approved, and active exploration is underway. Thermal reserves are evident to support a 15 to 40 megawatt plant. Development plans are expected within the next two years.

Exploration Approved: Sierra Geothermal Power Inc.: Reese River Valley. Active exploration for geothermal possibilities 45 miles north of Austin has been approved for temperature gradient holes and seismic studies. Development plans are expected within the next five years.

Authorization for Exploration Approved for Sierra Geothermal Power Inc.: Alum. Authorization for exploration has been approved for Temperature Gradient Holes and seismic studies.

Operations Plan Received: Ram Power, Inc. This geothermal exploration is 10 miles north of Silver Peak. The Operations Plan has been received.
Minerals

MINERALS MANAGEMENT

MOUNT LEWIS FIELD OFFICE

Eureka Moly Mount Hope Project - BLM comment letter on Version 12 of the Plan of Operations was issued to Eureka Moly in February 2011. The BLM expects Version 13 prior to the issuance of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The interdisciplinary team and cooperating agencies have reviewed a second version of the Preliminary DEIS in May and the DEIS is expected to be issued in late August.

Newmont Phoenix Copper Project – The Preliminary Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (PDSEIS) has been issued to the interdisciplinary team and cooperating agencies. The DSEIS is expected to be issued in July.

Newmont Mule Canyon - Newmont is evaluating the possibility of resuming mining at this site. If mining is not resumed, the closure process will continue. Newmont will inform BLM of their plans in by the end of June 2011. Newmont continues to operate under terms and conditions of an Interim Water Management Plan.

Newmont Buffalo Valley Mine - Newmont is in the process of conducting baseline analyses in preparation for submittal of a Plan of Operations to mine gold.

McCoy/Cove - Reclamation is on-going. Quarterly inspections continue to be conducted.

Newmont Toiyabe Exploration Project – Final bond release has been issued for the reclamation and the project has been closed.

Barrick Cortez Hills – The Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement was completed in January 2011 and a Record of Decision and Plan Approval were issued in March 2011.

Barrick Cortez Hills-Pipeline Complex – The Amendment to the Plan of Operations is under review by the BLM. The Amendment includes a road reroute, tailings expansion and borrow pit authorization.

Barrick Horse Canyon Cortez Unified Exploration Plan - BLM issued the Decision Record and Plan of Operations Amendment Approval in May 2011. Litigation is complete and BLM has authorized additional drilling.

Barrick Ruby Hill Mine – BLM is currently reviewing an Amendment to the Plan of Operations that includes a pit expansion and additional process facilities.

Montezuma Mines Red Canyon Exploration Plan of Operations – An EA has been issued to the public. A decision and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) are expected in July 2011.

Coral Gold Resources Robertson Project - SRK Consulting is preparing an Amended Plan of Operations and revised EA for review.

US Gold Corp Gold Pick Exploration Project - A Plan of Operations was submitted to the BLM in February 2011, and BLM comments have been issued to the proponent.

US Gold Corp Tonkin Springs Closure - An Amended Plan of Operations was submitted to the BLM and is currently under review.

TONOPAH FIELD OFFICE

Round Mountain Gold Corporation Mine Expansion, Round Mountain Mine - The expansion of the open pit at Round Mountain and the development of a new mine pit at Gold Hill, 5 miles north of the existing pit has begun. New leach pads will be constructed at both locations and the tailings impoundment at Round Mountain will be expanded. An appeal and request for a stay was filed by Great Basin Resource Watch and the Descendants of Big Smoky Valley. The appellants' statement of reasons for requesting the stay and BLM's response to their comments have been filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals.

EA Completed for A.U. Mines, Inc., Manhattan Gulch Mine - The EA for a 553-acre alluvial placer gold mine was completed in the first quarter of FY 2011. The Plan of Operations has been approved and mining is expected to begin after the operator submits the reclamation bond and the Historic Property Treatment Plan has been implemented.

EA is Being Prepared to Analyze Mineral Ridge Gold, LLC, Mineral Ridge Mine Exploration - An EA is being prepared to analyze a 330-drill-hole exploration amendment to the Plan of Operations. It should be available for a 30-day public review period in the third or fourth quarter, FY 2011. The mine went into temporary shutdown mode in 2005 and is expected to come back on line in the fourth quarter of FY 2011.

Plan of Operations for Exploration Submitted for the Rodinia Minerals, LLC, SP Drilling Project - Rodinia submitted a 71-drill hole exploration Plan of Operations in the Clayton Valley area of Esmeralda County. An EA is being prepared to analyze the environmental consequences of permitting the drill exploration. The EA should be available for a 30-day public review and comment period in the fourth quarter, FY 2011.

Proposal for Diatomite Mine: Global Silica, Inc., Monte Cristo Mine - The operator has proposed an open pit diatomite mine with on-site screening, crushing, drying and milling facilities. Additional information to complete the Plan of Operations has been received and the first draft of the EA is expected in August 2011.

Proposal for Open Pit Mine: Nekekim Corporation, Nekekim Mine - The operator has proposed a 40-acre open pit gold mine about 80 miles east of Tonopah. The gold recovery process is not identified at

this time. Additional information to complete the Plan of Operations was requested in the second and third quarters of FY 2011.

Plans to Develop Gravel Pits: Nye County, Mineral Material Pits - The Nye County Road Department has submitted Mine Plans to develop gravel pits, crushing and screening plants, and stockpile areas in Amargosa Valley, Moore's Station Wash and southern Railroad Valley. Development of an EA and 2 CX's began in the second quarter of FY 2011.

Mine Plans Submitted: Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC, Mineral Material Pit - Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC has submitted a Mine Plan for a 25 acre gravel pit, crushing and screening plant, and stockpile area in Big Smoky Valley. The sand and gravel will be used to make concrete for the Crescent Dunes Solar Power Plant facilities and power tower. A sale contract was sent to the operator in March, 2011. The sale will be completed when the signed contract and funds have been submitted.

Amendment Review: Columbus SM, LLC, Inland Navigator Mine - An amendment to the Plan of Operations is being reviewed. A follow-up letter requesting additional information to complete the amendment has been sent to the operator. NEPA analysis of the amendment will begin as soon as the amendment is considered complete.

Reclamation Plans Received for Arizona Pumice, Inc., Beatty Pumice Mine - Mine and Reclamation Plans for the operation have been received. Cost recovery funds have been received and the NEPA analysis has been completed. The application will be processed when the proponent identifies a sale quantity.

Clayton Valley Sodium and Potassium Prospecting Permits - The permits have been on hold, pending determination of the suitability to issue prospecting permits in Clayton Valley. A determination regarding whether or not issuance of permits is appropriate; or if the available resource information is sufficient to propose competitive leases of the individual parcels is in process.

June 2011 Nevada BLM Oil and Gas Lease Sale - The June 14, 2011 sale for Battle Mountain District lease parcels was held as scheduled. Twenty-five parcels sold on the 14th for \$662,962.00, no offers have been received on the remaining 56 parcels.

December 2011 Nevada BLM Oil and Gas Lease Sale - An Environmental Assessment of the 155 parcels proposed for sale in the Tonopah area is being written. On June 6, 2011, a Native American representative toured the proposed lease parcels; comments and concerns were provided in early July.

Notice of Staking to Drill an Oil Well - G & H Energy has submitted an application for an oil well 6 miles NNE of Nyala, NV. An on-site meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2011.

Oil and Gas Geophysical Survey - Major Oil International, LLC has submitted an application for a 120 point geophysical survey in Hot Creek Valley, 12 miles NNE of Warm Springs.

Hazardous Mine Working Closures – Approximately 8 mine shafts and adits are scheduled to be grouted, gated, or backfilled later this year in the Sylvania Canyon area of Esmeralda County.

LANDS AND REALTY

MOUNT LEWIS FIELD OFFICE

Right –of-Way (ROW) Grants – Town of Crescent Valley Remediation Project: A ROW was granted in March for the Town of Crescent Valley Arsenic Remediation Project, located in Crescent Valley, part of which is in Lander and Eureka Counties.

The proposal is to install new arsenic removal equipment, a new water well and an additional water storage tank at the town's existing water supply facility to remediate arsenic levels which no longer meet Environmental Protection Agency guidelines for drinking water.

No comments were received during a 30 day public comment period on the Environmental Assessment and a Finding of No Significant Impacts has been signed. The ROW amendment was granted in March.

Eureka Count Spring Box Project Appeal – The decision for Eureka County Spring Box Project to Rehabilitate 10 springs was appealed, but dismissed with agreement on an errata.

A Right of Way was granted for this project which involves the rehabilitation of 10 springs, installation of new water lines and an upgrade of existing portions of pipeline. When completed, the pipeline will connect the 10 springs to the Town of Eureka's Municipal Water System. The pipeline will be approximately 11,565 feet in length. The project will cover about 245.5 acres of public land, which includes a 1000-foot X 1000-foot enclosure at each spring. The project is located east of the Town of Eureka, mainly following Highway 50. ROW was granted the above appeal information covers the dismissal of the appeal.

Construction Underway for Eureka County Devils Gate 1 and 2 Water Districts Water Project - The Right of Way has been granted and construction is underway. The project involves the construction of a 350,000 gallon water storage tank, 6,500 feet long connecting water line, and a power line to tie the Devil's Gate 1&2 General Improvement Water Districts together. The project is located at the northwest of the intersection of U.S. Highway 50 and Nevada Highway 278, west of Eureka. The pipeline has been constructed and the new power line has been installed. Construction of the water tank is nearly complete.

Construction Underway for Battle Mountain Water Supply Arsenic Remediation Project - A Right of Way was granted and construction is nearly complete for the arsenic remediation project for the town of Battle Mountain. The entire project includes a 1.7 mile long power line, 2 water supply wells, a 6 mile long buried water line, two water storage tanks and a service road. Of the entire project, 1.5 miles crosses public land requiring a Right of Way from the BLM for a portion of the buried pipeline and a 16' wide graveled service road. The county is proposing to add an additional water line to the system which will be entirely located on public land. Because this is an action connected to a federal action, a cultural

survey was required. The report was completed, reviewed at the BLM and submitted to the SHPO for review.

Homestake Ruby Hill Land Sale - This is a proposal to offer by direct sale 150 acres of public land to Homestake Mining Company near their Ruby Hill Mine near Eureka. Only the surface estate is proposed for sale and the land is identified as disposable in the Shoshone-Eureka resource Management Plan. An EA was prepared and no substantive or adverse comments were received during the public scoping process. A Finding of No Significant Impacts was signed in February, 2011. Before the sale can occur, a Notice of Realty Action must be published in the Federal Register and local newspapers providing another opportunity for public comment. The Notice is currently undergoing final review by the Washington Office prior to release for publication. The sale date is tentatively scheduled for the summer of 2011.

United States Navy - A Right of Way was granted, and construction will begin when weather permits for this project that involves building a communication site to house an Enterprise Land Mobile Radio system. There will be a prefabricated building to house the equipment, a 1,000 gallon propane tank, backup generator and a self supporting tower. The 100-foot X 100-foot site will be fenced. The project is located within the Mount Moses Communications site, approximately 30 miles south west of Battle Mountain. Construction has not started, waiting for snow to clear from the top of the mountain.

Mt. Wheeler Power Inc. New York Canyon Project – The proposal for this project is to bring under a right-of-way two powerlines (A portion along highway 50 near Eureka, and a portion located in Windfall Canyon) add a new portion of line to connect to New York Canyon's existing line that is in disrepair. Replace a portion of the New York Canyon line to connect to the powerline that furnishes power to the Prospect Peak Communications Site. Some of the critical users on the mountain top are DOE, NV Highway Patrol, various Eureka County agencies and NDoIT. The de-energized portion of the old New York Canyon line will be removed as well as the unused portion of line in Windfall Canyon that once furnished power to the Windfall Canyon Mine.

TONOPAH FIELD OFFICE

Valley Electric Association, Inc., Tolicha Peak Power Line – A Right-of-Way Decision was issued to Valley Electric in May, 2011 approving the construction of an 20.5-mile-long, 24.9kV power line from Beatty to military facilities on Tolicha Peak. Two appeals and requests for stay were received on the project. The IBLA is considering the requests for stay at this time.

Esmeralda County Direct Land Sale - Esmeralda County has requested a direct sale of 5 acres of public land near the southwest corner of the town of Goldfield. Preparation for the required environmental documents and supportive studies is underway. The tentative completion date for the sale is expected to be in the fourth quarter, FY 2011. The Southern Nevada District, Division of Land Sales and Acquisitions are completing the sale.

Other Tonopah Field Office Lands and Realty Actions - At this time, there are more than 40 additional Rights-of-Way, permits, leases and trespasses for phone lines, power lines, communication sites, roads,

recreation sites, dumps/landfills, film permits, pipelines, a sewage treatment plant, a gravel pit, and a cemetery that will be authorized, renewed, assigned, relinquished, terminated or surveyed in 2011 and 2012.

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

MOUNT LEWIS FIELD OFFICE

Battle Mountain Complex Permit Renewal Proposed Decision - Permit renewal for Copper Canyon and North Buffalo Allotments remains in progress for Dan & Eddyann Filippini (Badger and Chiara Ranches), Ellison Ranching Co., and Doby George, LLC.

The Proposed Decision has been drafted. The Mount Lewis Field Office will hold one final meeting with Dan and Eddyann Filippini as they are the most affected by the grazing decision. The Proposed Decision brings forward the “Trigger-Based” Alternative as the preferred for implementation. This grazing management system will allow for grazing in the mountain regions of the allotment where the majority of the riparian areas and sage grouse habitat occur as long as established “within-season” triggers are attained. Once a given trigger is reached, the permittees will be required to remove livestock from that area of the allotment.

Argenta Allotment Rangeland Health Assessment – Compilation of monitoring data collected on the Argenta Allotment is under way in preparation of the draft Rangeland Health Evaluation scheduled for completion by September 30, 2011.

2011 Monitoring Preparation - The Mount Lewis Field Office is preparing for the 2011 monitoring season. Upland monitoring efforts are scheduled to occur within the following allotments in preparation for upcoming Rangeland Health Evaluations:

| Allotment | County | Permits Affected in Upcoming Evaluations |
|------------------|---------------|---|
| Argenta | Lander | 10 |
| Union Mountain | Eureka | 2 |
| Diamond Springs | | 1 |
| North Diamond | | 2 |
| Three Mile | | 1 |
| Black Point | | 2 |
| O’Toole Ranches | Lander/Nye | 1 |
| Home | Nye | 1 |
| Tierney Creek | Lander/Nye | 1 |
| Washington | Lander | 1 |
| San Juan | Lander | 3 |
| Grass Valley | Lander/Eureka | 5 |

2011 Weed Treatment Preparation - The Battle Mountain District implemented its “Integrated Weed Management Plan” (Plan) in FY 2009. The Plan provides for the inventory and treatment of non-native and noxious weeds, and includes weed prevention procedures, along with education and outreach protocols. The Mount Lewis Field Office, in coordination with its partners, is preparing for inventory and treatment of noxious weeds in the following areas:

Inventory:

| Area | Anticipated Acreages |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Eureka County | 15,000 |
| Allotments associated with Rangeland Health Evaluations | 105,000 |
| Battle Mountain Complex | 10,000 |
| 3-Bars Landscape Restoration Project | 25,000 |
| Upper Reese River | 25,000 |
| Tamarisk throughout Lander County | 2,500 |
| Carico Lake Allotment | 10,000 |
| Cottonwood Allotment | 50,000 |
| 7-Mile Allotment | 75,000 |

Treatment:

| Area | Anticipated Acreages |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Eureka County | 80 |
| Fluffy Flat fire scar (2009 fire) | 75 |
| Callaghan fire scar (2007 fire) | |
| Battle Mountain Complex | 150 |
| Upper Reese River | 50 |
| Tamarisk throughout Lander County | 80 |
| Carico Lake Allotment | 100 |
| Cottonwood Allotment | 25 |
| 7-Mile Allotment | 75 |
| Grass Valley Allotment | 50 |
| Roberts Mountain Allotment | 100 |

TONOPAH FIELD OFFICE

Stone Cabin Monitoring - Data is being collected on the Stone Cabin Allotment and Herd Management Area in preparation for a rangeland health assessment and the wild horse gather plan environmental assessment. Preliminary analysis reveals that the grass component has decreased in many areas of the allotment. In addition, the percent of rabbitbrush is disproportional high on many of the sites. Some sites do show an increase in desirable plants because utilization has been within the low-end of the proper-use factor.

Smoky and Francisco Allotments - Efforts on the permit renewals for the Smoky and Francisco Allotments are progressing on schedule. The rangeland health evaluations and EAs are scheduled to be released to the public for comment in August.

Other Planned Monitoring -

| Allotments | County |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Ralston | Nye |
| Stone Cabin | Nye |
| Crater Black Rock | Nye |
| Sand Springs | Nye |
| Wagon Johnnie | Nye |
| Ione | Nye |

2011 Weed Inventory

| Allotment | Acres | County |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Reveille | 10,000 | Nye |
| Stone Cabin | 20,000 | Nye |
| Ione | 10,000 | Nye |

WILDLIFE, SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES AND RIPARIAN/WETLAND MANAGEMENT

MOUNT LEWIS FIELD OFFICE

Planning for Priority Species - The Planning for Priority Species has been initiated for the resource management plan. This project will assist the interdisciplinary teams in classifying and rating the different habitats in relation to Special Status Species, Threatened and Endangered animal and plants. The results of this planning effort will be a determination of the status of the health of the land to support the special category species.

Eagle Butte Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Project - The proposed project occurs within the Simpson Park, Dry Creek and Grass Valley Allotments. The proposal includes the use of UNR Bootstraps to hand thin pinyon and juniper trees on up to 3,000 acres. The Consultation, Cooperation and Coordination letter was issued to the interested publics in December 2010. Livestock and wild horses will also benefit from the proposed project. The Interdisciplinary Team is in the process of drafting the EA.

R-Mapping - The Mount Lewis Field Office has completed R-Mapping for the District to identify sage grouse habitat purposes. This information has been provided to the State Office for further compilation for the entire State of Nevada.

Sage Grouse Habitat Rapid Ecological Assessment - The Great Basin Institute has coordinated with the Battle Mountain District staff to identify areas to monitor for sage grouse habitat. This monitoring information will be used in part for future rangeland health evaluations and mitigation protocols for renewable energy and non-renewable projects. These areas include: Tierney Creek, San Juan, Home, Washington Creek, O'Toole, and Grass Valley Allotments and McGuinness Hills Geothermal project area.

Aspen Stand Inventory and Restoration - The Mount Lewis Field Office will be aspen stand inventory and restoration measures to maintain/improve the ecological health of riparian systems and quality of critical habitat for wildlife species. These surveys will supplement and "ground truth" surveys conducted by satellite imagery in 2003.

Special Status Species, Threatened and Endangered Animals and Plants - The Mount Lewis Field Office staff will again participate in the inter-agency population monitoring of the Columbia spotted frog within the Upper Reese River Watershed.

District staff also participated in winter raptor surveys conducted during January 2011. The golden eagle population was stable but there was an increase in the population of ravens.

TONOPAH FIELD OFFICE

Special Status Species, Threatened and Endangered Animals and Plants. Planning for Priority Species has been initiated for the resource management plan. The project will assist the interdisciplinary teams in classifying and rating the different habitats in relation to Special Status Species, Threatened and Endangered animal and plants. The results of this planning effort will be a determination of the status of the health of the land to support the special category species.

R-Mapping - The Tonopah Field Office has completed R-Mapping for the District to identify sage grouse habitat purposes. This information has been provided to the State Office for further compilation for the entire State of Nevada.

Spring Rehabilitation – An EA for a spring rehabilitation project to benefit Armargosa Toad was posted on the external Battle Mountain web during the week of May 2, 2011, and the comment period ended on June 2, 2011. A tour with Timbisha Tribal Elders was held on April 27, 2011. The Timbisha Tribal Elders are in supportive of the project as well as NDOW.

Amargosa Toad Working Group - Amargosa Toad Working Group meet on March 28, 2011, and has conducted population monitoring in May and June for the Toad. The working group was supportive of the EA for the restoration project.

Central Nevada Elk Plan – The meeting is scheduled at Tonopah for the Fall of 2011.

Winter Raptor Survey – This survey was conducted during January 2011. A diversity of raptors was recorded.

Wildlife input – TFO is providing wildlife input to many mining and oil and gas proposed development in FY2011

WILD HORSE AND BURRO PROGRAM

MOUNT LEWIS FIELD OFFICE

Wild Horse and Burro Gathers: There are no gathers currently scheduled for FY 2011 in the Mount Lewis Field Office.

2011 Monitoring Preparation. The Mount Lewis Field Office is preparing to monitor the following HMAs: Diamonds, New Pass/Ravenswood, Bald Mountain, Rocky Hills, Fish Creek, Robert's Mountain, Hickison and South Shoshone.

TONOPAH FIELD OFFICE

Stone Cabin HMA - Monitoring data is being collected on the Stone Cabin Herd Management Area in preparation for the wild horse gather plan EA and rangeland health assessment. Progress was hampered by multiple rain and snow storms this spring which slowed down the completion of field work.

HMA Monitoring – Monitoring on all 15 HMAs is on-going to assess the health of the herds and habitat. Monitoring has been completed on the following HMA: Montezuma, Stone Cabin, Wagon Johnnie, Goldfield, Saulsbury, Paymaster, Bullfrog, Pilot Mtn., Fish Lake Valley, and Gold Mtn. Summary monitoring reports are being written by TFO Range Technician.

Gather Planning – An EA is being developed for the removal of excess wild horses from the Stone Cabin and Saulsbury HMAs. An additional EA is being developed for the removal of excess wild burros in the Bullfrog HMA which may utilize water trapping techniques. The gathers are planned for FY 2012. The interested party letters for the proposed gathers were mailed in June 2011.

Sand Springs West HMA - Ely BLM District is taking the lead on developing an EA that will include the Sand Springs West HMA, with support from TFO, in conjunction with several of their HMA's planned for a removal of excess wild horses. The TFO portion of the EA is completed.

FORESTRY AND WIDLINGS PROGRAM

TONOPAH FIELD OFFICE

Fuel Wood Contract - 56 firewood contracts were issued with a total biomass tonnage 253.3.

Wildlings Contract – 9 contracts were issued for Joshua trees

Christmas Trees – 119 Christmas tree tags were issued in FY2011

RECREATION

MOUNT LEWIS FIELD OFFICE

Shoshone Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Trail System. Construction has resumed on Phase 1 as a result of an additional Nevada State Parks grant. Phase 1 will consist of approximately 60 miles of new and existing trails. Maps are available at the BLM office and on site at the trailhead/staging area. **A Shoshone Grand Opening Event is scheduled for Friday June 17th 10:00am to celebrate partnerships and to promote the trail system. Local mines have made monetary contributions to support the event. A trail ride and FREE BBQ to the public will be included.** Wildlife and user monitoring will continue. The results of the monitoring will determine whether the field office will continue with phase II and III. The trails are located approximately 24 miles south of Battle Mountain, east of State Route 305 on Red Rock Canyon Road, Lander County. The Shoshone OHV Trail System is the only professionally groomed trail in Nevada and offers exciting rides as trails meander and flow in a natural rhythm, providing pristine views of wildlife and wildflowers.

National Public Lands Day 2011 will be held on Sept 24, 2011 in the Millcreek Recreation Area in partnership with Lander County. This year we will install ARRA funded campground equipment. Enhancements to Millcreek Campground will include newly designed camping areas, a newly installed vault toilet, tables, fire rings, BBQ stands, lantern hooks, and trash receptacles.

Pony Express Kiosk, located near Garden Pass on state route 278 near Eureka, is nearing completion as panels are being designed and installed by end of Summer 2011. The White Buffalo Nation in partnership with the National Park Service and BLM has been instrumental in giving the public a site to enjoy the rich history of the Pony Express National Historic Trail. This will be a great asset to the trail system and can be enjoyed by participants of the Annual Pony Express Re-Ride as well.

TONOPAH FIELD OFFICE

Eugene Entertainment, Inc. (Trac-On) Motorcycle and All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Trail Ride. The application for the two-day trail rides has been received and reviewed for completeness. The NEPA analysis will be completed by the end of the second quarter, FY 2011.

The trail rides have been designed for experts and amateurs on motorcycles (day 1) and novices and beginners on motorcycles and ATVs (day 2). 35-50 participants are expected for the 50 to 100 mile long rides.

Best in the Desert 2011 TSCO “Vegas to Reno” OHV Race. The application has been received; Carson City District Office will act as the lead office for the FY 2011 race. The NEPA analysis will begin in the third quarter, FY 2011.

The race is expected to begin South of Beatty, Nye County and end near Dayton, Lyon County. This is an annual 900+ mile OHV race including motorcycles, quads, trucks and race vehicles.

Rhyolite Historic Townsite Volunteer Campsite. With the assistance of Nye County and the Rhyolite Partnership, two covered RV pads have been completed near the Kelly Bottle House. Volunteers will be able to live on-site and provide a 24-hour presence for the townsite.

HAZARDOUS FUELS PROGRAM

WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE

The Battle Mountain District has completed implementation on the following WUI projects:

- 674 acres of mowing treatment on the N.W. Diamond Valley project;
- 1,275 acres of seeding treatment on the N.W. Diamond Valley project;

The Battle Mountain District has implementation planned between now and the end of September on the following WUI projects:

- 1,900 acres of treatment biological (grazing) treatment on the Austin project;
- 30 acres of treatment prescribed fire on the Eureka project;
- Monitor 2,000 acres of WUI fuels projects.

For FY 2012 the Battle Mountain District is requesting WUI fuels funding to conduct implementation on the following projects:

- 1,900 acres of mowing and seeding treatment on the Austin WUI project in areas not previously mowed;
- 1,200 acres of seeding treatment and NEPA on the Battle Mountain project;
- 657 acres of chemical treatment for cheatgrass on the Crescent Valley project;
- 2,073 acres of seeding treatment on the N.W. Diamond Valley project;
- 1,279 acres of seeding treatment on the South Diamond Valley project;
- 30 acres of mechanical treatment on the Eureka project;
- Additional funding to support the 3-Bars project.

HAZARDOUS FUELS

The Battle Mountain District has completed implementation on the following Non-WUI projects:

- 199 acres of pinyon-juniper thinning to protect mountain mahogany from the impacts of prescribed and/or wild fires fire on the Seven Mile project near Eureka but in Nye County (Mojave Southern RAC).

The Battle Mountain District has implementation planned between now and the end of September on the following Non-WUI projects:

- 1,000 acres of prescribed fire on the Seven Mile project near Eureka but in Nye County (Mojave Southern RAC);
- Monitor 2,000 acres of Non-WUI fuels projects.

For FY 2012 the Battle Mountain District is requesting WUI fuels funding to conduct implementation on the following projects:

- 186 acres of pinyon-juniper thinning to protect mountain mahogany from the impacts of prescribed and/or wild fires fire on the Seven Mile project near Eureka but in Nye County (Mojave Southern RAC);
- 706 acres of chemical treatment for cheatgrass on the Seven Mile project near Eureka but in Nye County (Mojave Southern RAC);
- 700 acres of mechanical treatment on the Sulphur Springs project;
- Additional funding to support the 3-Bars project.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (RMP) REVISION

RMP cooperating agency letters were mailed out in late November 2010. The 60-day RMP scoping period began with the publishing of the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register on December 13, 2010. An RMP Newsletter was sent to interested public on the RMP mailing list and was posted on the Battle Mountain District website. The newsletter was made available at local county libraries the following week.

The initial RMP scoping meeting was held from 6-8 pm in Reno, Nevada on January 20, 2011. Subsequent scoping meetings were held from 6-8 pm in Battle Mountain, Austin, and Eureka Nev. on January 24, 25, and 26, 2011, respectively. The following week additional meetings were held from 6-8 pm in Hadley, Tonopah, Beatty, and Dyer, Nevada on January 31, and February 1, 2, and 3, 2011, respectively. The scoping period formally ended on February 11, 2011.

The BLM received approximately 2,500 scoping comment letters, the majority of which were form letters. RMP presentations were also provided at a Tri-County commissioners meeting on February 9, 2011, in Austin, Nev. and at the Lander County Commissioners meeting on February 24, 2011. Socioeconomic workshops are scheduled to be held in Battle Mountain on 6/14/11 and Tonopah on 6/16/11 respectively. These are planned to be attended by the various county commissioners, planners, and interested stakeholders.

To date, Eureka, Lander, Esmeralda, and Nye Counties have requested Cooperating Agency status along with the Nevada Department of Wildlife, National Park Service (Death Valley), Environmental Protection Agency, Fallon Naval Air Station, Nellis Air Force Base, and the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe.

The BLM is currently in the process of finalizing the scoping report which will be made available to the public on the BMD website in the coming weeks. For the remainder of 2011, the BLM will be working on incorporating scoping comments into developing alternatives for the RMP and drafting supporting

resource reports including air quality, ethnographic, wild and scenic rivers, mineral potential, and socioeconomics.

For more information visit the RMP web page:

www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/battle_mountain_field/blm_information/rmp.html

Or contact Chris Worthington, 775-635-4144; email: Christoher_worthington@blm.gov.